

## Annual Meeting Jan. 16, 2020

The Town & River Civic Association annual meeting will take place on Jan. 16. We will conduct required business, review accomplishments in 2019, our expectations and goals for 2020 and settle in for an incredibly important presentation on perhaps the most important and relevant topic regarding the value of our homes and community as a whole – that of the condition of our community's seawalls. Yes, seawalls.

Unless you live in a new home or have undertaken the process to replace your seawall, your property is bounded by a seawall that, according to the experts, is past the end of its life.

For most of us, our seawalls are far from our thinking. Yet, as recent hurricanes have exposed the frailty of seawalls in Cape Coral – our seawalls are constructed similarly and have the same age.

Your Board wants to get out in front of this issue. We want our community to know the challenge, the complexities including rising sea level and engineering issues. There are many questions and an equal number of answers. Most important – we all have a lot to learn.



We have invited two experts whose long-term experience in our area and engineering expertise will provide all of us with a clear understanding of our current conditions, risks, alternatives and costs.

Your Board encourages all Town & River residents to attend the 2020 Town & River Annual Meeting.

Date: Thursday, Jan. 16, 2020

Time: Registration 6:30 p.m., meeting begins at 7 p.m.

Location: Fellowship Hall, Cypress Lake United Methodist Church, 8750 Cypress Lake Drive

## HOA Dues Payment Information

2019 dues were payable by Feb. 28, 2019. Invoices were mailed in early February to all Town & River addresses on file with the association (using Lee County Property Appraiser site). If you have not yet paid, please send a \$120 check payable to T&R Civic Association Inc. to:

Town & River Civic Association  
c/o Cye Budde CPA  
Ana Santana-Budde, Principal  
8270 College Parkway, Suite 104  
Fort Myers, FL 33919

*Payment of dues puts the owner in good standing, and allows the owner to vote on annual dues amount, vote for directors, vote for bylaws changes, and any other item that requires a vote of the membership.*

## Board Of Directors Meeting Minutes [Unapproved]

Thursday, November 14, 2019

**Call To Order** – Treasurer Gary Hudson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at South Pointe South Clubhouse.

**Officers, Directors, & Residents Present**

A quorum was established. Present: Directors Marge Byrne, Rick Chubb, Kay Gloris, Myriam Lentz, Martha Smith, Joe Tomaino and Executive Secretary Sally Stigler. Absent: Directors Rick Ginsburg, Carol Notes President Mark Generales and Secretary Renee Notes. Two residents were present.

**Approval Of Minutes** – October 2019 minutes were approved by motion as submitted.

**Architectural Review – Gary Hudson**

Exterior remodel/Residential Alteration to Primary Structure (no additional square footage): Owners Tom and Ann Marie Aeschliman of 9731 Cypress Lake Drive spoke

regarding this county permitted project. This project, a replacement for a sunroom which was razed, was approved contingent upon plan resubmission with a modification.

**Treasurer's REPORT – Gary Hudson**

Gary emailed October financial statements to Board Members earlier in the week. He reported the dues invoices for calendar year 2020 will be mailed after the annual meeting on January 16, 2020. It was passed by motion to recommend to the voting members at the annual meeting that 2020 dues remain at \$120 a year. The Treasurer's Report was accepted by motion. At the January board meeting Gary will present the 2020 budget for review and approval.

**Annual Meeting Preparations**

The notice of the Annual Meeting mailing will be mailed in early December advising owners of date, time and place. Proxies will also be enclosed, with return envelopes, for the official election of Directors Rick Chubb and Joe Tomaino. One Board vacancy remains to be filled. Note: subsequent to the meeting a homeowner was approached who agreed to

fill the vacancy. This owner will be appointed by the board at its December meeting. These three appointees will be voted on at the annual meeting.

**Dor Discussion – Gary Hudson**

Two owners have built docks in violation of side setbacks and were officially notified of the violation. The violations have not been corrected. These will be pursued legally. Upon advice from the association's attorney, the process will begin by offering mediation to the owners.

**Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by motion at 7:10 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will convene 6:30 p.m. Thursday, December 12, 2019 at South Pointe South Clubhouse, 9734 Foxglove Circle, Ft. Myers.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Sally Stigler,  
Executive Secretary*

## Town & River Cruise Club November Luncheon

By Mike and Liz DiBenedetto

The Town & River Cruise Club held its monthly luncheon on Nov. 14, 2019 at the Boathouse Tiki Bar & Grill in Fort Myers. Due to cancellation of last month's luncheon event this gathering became the first of the year.



The Town & River Cruise Club ventured up river on Nov. 14.



Town & River Cruise Club on page 5



Great conversations about the upcoming club events took place during the social hour.

The Board meets on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m.,  
South Pointe South Clubhouse, 9734 Foxglove Circle, Fort Myers.  
2020 Town & River Annual Meeting  
Thursday, January 16, 2020, Registration 6:30 p.m.,  
Meeting 7 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall, Cypress Lake United Methodist Church,  
8750 Cypress Lake Drive  
All are encouraged to attend.  
Check out our new website [www.townandriverfl.com](http://www.townandriverfl.com).

# Word Scramble

## School Subjects

By Ellie Neal

Cmius Hmta Myg Yhriots  
 Rta Cencesi Salegguan Heygoparg  
 Srtosp Lscoai tdussie

Word Scramble Solution on page 7

# Sudoku Puzzle

	1							4
6		5						2 8
2				4				5 7
			4					9
	3		5					
				1 7				
					1			3
	6 8	2						5
	5		9					

Sudoku Puzzle Solution on page 7

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# Crossword Puzzle

## Across

1. Half of six
6. Not Mama
10. French for "State"
14. Lion sounds
15. Quiet time
16. Desire
17. Anxiety
18. District
19. Maize
20. Days gone by
22. Away from the wind
23. Indian music
24. Hammer
26. Human creativity
30. Smidgen
31. Timid
32. Protective ditch
33. Beer
35. Chose
39. Jeopardize
41. Whenever
43. 3-banded armadillo
44. Arid
46. Murres
47. Ensign (abbrev.)
49. "Eureka!"
50. Slave
51. Brave
54. Ripped
56. Border
57. Huskiness
63. Conservative
64. Spheres
65. A small olive-grey bird
66. Applaud
67. Leer at
68. Make into law
69. Fit
70. Caustics
71. Relaxes

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20						21					22			
					23				24	25				
26	27	28	29		30				31					
32					33			34		35		36	37	38
39				40				41	42					
43						44	45				46			
				47		48		49			50			
51	52	53						54		55				
56						57	58				59	60	61	62
63						64				65				
66						67				68				
69						70				71				

## Down

1. Found in a cafeteria
2. Sharpen
3. Tatters
4. At one time (archaic)
5. Banana oil, e.g.
6. Women pleasure-seekers

7. Golden
8. Entreaty
9. Warning devices
10. Mallee
11. Fairy tale character
12. Yes
13. Basic belief
21. Jewish scholar
25. Greeting at sea
26. Dogfish
27. Cavort
28. The thin fibrous bark
29. Mental representation
34. Veterans
36. Rubber wheel
37. Arab chieftain
38. Unhearing
40. Hindu princess
42. Approaches
45. Palatable
48. Place of learning
51. Emerge from eggs

52. African virus
53. Not urban
55. Not a single time
58. Unrestrained revelry
59. 1 less than 10
60. Historical periods
61. Religious offshoot
62. Drunkards

Crossword Solution on page 7



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**VIP Tent Saturday & Sunday, February 1st and 2nd**  
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## Save The Date

### New Horizons Benefit Luncheon And Silent Auction

**Who:** New Horizons of SWFL provides after-school tutoring and mentoring to at-risk students in grades kindergarten through 12th grade who are growing up in an environment of poverty, academic failure and hopelessness.

**What:** Attendees of "A Whole New World," New Horizons of SWFL's 12th annual luncheon, will have the opportunity to recognize our Super Teens who are achieving the ultimate goal of our programs: graduation from high school! In addition, settle in for a morning filled with wondrous silent auction items, performances by our Super Kids Club choir, stories from our graduating students and of course, a fantastic lunch.

**Where:** Hyatt Regency Coconut Point, 5001 Coconut Road, Bonita Springs

**When:** Saturday, Feb. 29. Silent auction opens at 10:30 a.m. and luncheon program begins at 12 p.m.

**Tickets:** Suggested donation of \$125 per person

**Information:** Thea Cernohaus, (239) 948-4146, info@newhorizonsofswfl.org, www.newhorizonsofswfl.org



New Horizons Choir, who will perform at the 2020 luncheon



The crowd gives a standing ovation after hearing students speak at the 2019 luncheon.

## Fort Myers Beach Working Waterfront Tour

### Visit The San Carlos Island Shrimping Fleet

Did you know that the Fort Myers Beach shrimping fleet is the largest commercial fishing fleet in the Gulf of Mexico? Shrimping, known as "pink gold," contributes millions of dollars to our economy.

Here is your chance to learn firsthand about the San Carlos Island Commercial Fishing Fleet.



The Ostego Bay Foundation Marine Science Center offers a three-hour guided tour. The cost for the tour is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children over 6 years of age. The tour includes a presentation by our local historian and Florida master naturalist on the evolution of the San Carlos commercial fishing industry, the discovery of the Florida pink shrimp and today's challenges to the industry. In addition, there will be a short video on how a shrimp boat works, then onto the working waterfront. You'll enjoy seeing Erickson & Jensen Seafood Packers, Supply House, Net Shop, Trico Seafood Market and unloading dock. See how the boats are unloaded, how the trawl doors are built, shrimp nets being handsewn and other important factors used in

this unique industry. After visiting the docks, the tour continues to the Science Center for even more local knowledge. Bring your camera for a memorable experience! Every Wednesday morning in season weather permitting, tour size is limited. Reservations are required. Call for reservations at (239) 765-8101 or visit [www.ostegobay.org/waterfront-tours/](http://www.ostegobay.org/waterfront-tours/) to register online.

**Ostego Bay Foundation Inc., 718 Fisherman's Wharf, Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931, (239) 765-8101, info@ostegobay.org**

## Montage Women's Club

The Montage Women's Club is a social and philanthropic club open to all women residing in Lee County. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month at The Landings Yacht, Golf, and Tennis Club (off McGregor Boulevard south of College Parkway). Meetings begin at 11:30 a.m. for lunch and are followed by an informative program. Within the organization are various interest groups for members' participation. Membership is open to both year-round and seasonal residents. We welcome you to visit Montage for a luncheon.

Our first meeting in 2020 takes place Thursday, Jan. 23 at 11:30 a.m. Our speaker will be Christin Collins who was *The News-Press* Person of the Year for 2017. Christin will share her thoughts on living life optimally focusing on mind, spirit, and body.

If you would like to attend a Montage meeting, need further information, or would like to make a reservation, please call (239) 481-7765.

*Rita Artwohl, President*

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# Tax Considerations For Divorcing Couples

Presented by  
Jacqueline Lambros,  
Registered Principal



In a divorce, the division of property, payment of alimony, and receipt of child support all come with federal income tax implications. Understanding the rules and exceptions can help you avoid falling into a tax trap.

## Property Settlements

As a general rule, no gains, losses, or taxes are recognized when assets are transferred between ex-spouses within one year of the marriage's end. The transfer can occur anytime within six years of the divorce if a separation or divorce agreement instructs the parties to make the transfer.

The property's cost basis and the holding period carry over to the recipient. The basis will not increase even if one spouse buys (or trades) the property from the other. The transfer of property with deferred gains to a spouse does not usually trigger immediate taxes. One exception is a change of ownership of U.S. savings bonds.

The IRS rules for tax-free division of marital property, however, do not apply to same-sex couples who are not legally married, nor do they cover transfers to a nonresident alien spouse. A transfer of assets to a non-U.S. citizen spouse living abroad may be treated as a gift, subject to specific transfer limitations under tax law. Any available lifetime gift exemption will be applied to offset taxes.

For more details about the tax treatment of property settlements, please see IRS Publication 504.

## The Family Home

If the couple's primary residence is sold after the divorce and at least one of the spouses owned and lived in the home for two of the previous five years, both spouses can potentially qualify for the IRS's \$250,000 gain exclusion. If your home was transferred to you by your former spouse as a result of the divorce, you are considered to have owned it during any period of time when your spouse owned it. For the purpose of this exclusion, you are also considered to have lived in the home if you owned it and your former spouse was allowed to live in it under a divorce or separation agreement and used it as his or her main home.

A divorce or legal separation under a decree of divorce or separate maintenance is also considered an unforeseen circumstance safe harbor, qualifying for a partial gain exclusion from the sale of the family home.

## Alimony And Child Support

Under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, divorces executed after Dec. 31, 2018, will treat alimony as nontaxable income to the recipient and will not be deductible by the person paying it. To qualify as alimony, the amount must be required by the divorce or separation agreement and paid by cash, check, or money order. Another requirement is that the divorced couple cannot live in the same household or file a joint return. If you pay alimony to a former spouse, you cannot claim that spouse as a dependent for income tax purposes.

Child support is not treated as taxable to the recipient, nor is it deductible by the payer. Sometimes, the court will order a sum that represents both child support and alimony. Child support is that part of the payment that will be reduced or cease due to an event relating to or associated with the child. If you pay for a child's medical expenses, you may be able to take a medical expense deduction even if you are not the primary custodian or do not claim the child as a dependent.

## Income Tax Returns

For federal tax purposes, your marital status on Dec. 31 determines your tax filing status for the year. If you are legally married on the last day of the tax year, you are considered married for income tax purposes. If you are considered married, you and your spouse can elect to file a joint return and benefit from certain tax advantages.

A single parent may claim head of household filing status if he or she provides more than half the cost of running the household for a qualifying dependent and lives apart from a spouse. This filing status generally results in lower taxes than filing as single or married filing separately.

As a general rule, a dependent deduction and child tax credit

are allowed for the parent who cares for the child for the majority of the year, even if that parent pays less than 50 percent of the child's support. Both parents can, however, agree (in writing) to allow the noncustodial parent to take the deduction until the child reaches the state's age of majority and to take the child tax credit until the child is age 17. The dependency exemption is usually not available after the child reaches age 19 (age 24 if a full-time student) unless the child is permanently and totally disabled or unless the child's gross income for the year is less than the personal exemption amount and the parent provided more than half the child's total support for the year.

Child care tax credits and reimbursement from a dependent care flexible spending account may be available for expenses incurred for children younger than 13.

## Retirement Accounts

Retirement assets are often split in order to equitably divide marital assets. The only way to avoid immediate taxation when retirement assets are shifted to the other spouse is for the division to be spelled out in the divorce or separation agreement. In addition, the courts will often issue a qualified domestic relations order (QDRO) instructing the employer on how to separate the assets. If the employer allows, you can move your share of your spouse's retirement account to an IRA. To avoid withholding tax, elect a direct transfer to the new IRA custodian.

Often, traditional pension plans don't offer a rollover option. In that case, the employer will account for your benefits in a separate account within the plan or will write two checks (one for each party) when a pension payment is due. Generally, each party is responsible for his or her own taxes. Note that a QDRO-ordered distribution to a child or other dependent is always taxed to the participant spouse.

One of the advantages of a QDRO is that the 10-percent penalty does not apply for early withdrawals from a 401(k), 403(b), or 457(b) plan made to a former spouse who is younger than 59½; however, the mandatory 20-percent withholding tax does. Unlike with QDROs, a divorce does not qualify as an exception to the 10-percent early withdrawal penalty for IRA distributions prior to age 59½ once the account is split.

Remember that an informal or mediated agreement between spouses to divide retirement assets is not recognized by the IRS and will result in immediate income taxes. It is important to time the distribution after the agreement is finalized or at the written direction of the court.

*This material has been provided for general informational purposes only and does not constitute either tax or legal advice. Although we go to great lengths to make sure our information is accurate and useful, we recommend you consult a tax preparer, professional tax advisor, or lawyer.*

## Town & River Civic Association Inc. Profit And Loss November 2019

	Nov 19	Jan - Nov 19
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Income - Mandatory	0.00	10,440.00
Income - Voluntary	0.00	25,740.00
Total Income	0.00	36,180.00
Interest Income	1.85	283.50
Misc Income	0.00	34.00
<b>Total Income</b>	1.85	36,497.50
<b>Expense</b>		
Accounting fees	315.00	3,853.50
Corp Insurance	251.08	2,148.14
Email Service	243.00	905.74
General Repairs & Maintenance	575.00	575.00
Legal Expense	0.00	3,428.74
Meeting Rooms	100.00	1,139.50
Monument Sign Maintenance	0.00	121.72
Newspaper Postage	138.02	1,755.63
Office Expense	0.00	30.30
Postage Expense	0.00	255.49
Printing & Postage	0.00	967.21
State Fee	0.00	61.25
Secretary Expense	0.00	1,260.00
Storage Expense	99.83	1,033.71
Uncollectable	0.00	391.05
Utilities	45.05	493.68
Website Maintenance	86.58	1,237.17
<b>Total Expense</b>	1,853.56	19,657.83
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	-1,851.71	16,839.67
<b>Net Income</b>	-1,851.71	16,839.67

## Town & River Civic Association Inc. Balance Sheet As of November 30, 2019

	Nov 30, 19
<b>Assets</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Checking/Savings	
First Citizens Bank- Operating	6,519.83
First Citizens Bank - MMS	44,872.52
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	51,392.35
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
Prepaid, Lake Expense	4,949.73
Prepaid, Other Expense	2,270.30
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	7,220.03
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	58,612.38
<b>Total Assets</b>	58,612.38
<b>Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>	
Annual Dues, Advanced	390.00
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	390.00
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	390.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	390.00
<b>Equity</b>	
Prior Year Fund Balance	40,861.86
Retained Earnings	520.85
Net Income	16,839.67
<b>Total Equity</b>	58,222.38
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	58,612.38

## Town & River Lake Report

**Inspection Date:** Nov. 30, 2019

### Inspected For:

Algae	NA
Aquatic Weeds	NA
Undesirable Shoreline Vegetation	NA
Water Quality	NA

**Technician's Comments:** Inspected Lake



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TOWN & RIVER CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.  
 OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS – as of September 12, 2019  
 www.townandriverfl.com

President	Mark Generales	239-676-5676	pres@townandriverfl.com
Vice President	vacant		vp@townandriverfl.com
Secretary	Renee Notes	239-209-2072	secy@townandriverfl.com
Treasurer	Gary Hudson	239-481-7748	treas@townandriverfl.com

STREET ASSIGNMENTS	DIRECTOR	EMAIL PHONE NUMBER
Bal Isle Dr E Town & River Rd	vacant	dir1@townandriverfl.com
Brevity Ln N Waterway Dr	Rick Chubb	dir2@townandriverfl.com 609.707.0825
Cal Cove Dr Cape View Dr Hatchee Vista Ln Jennifer Ln	Carol Notes	dir3@townandriverfl.com 239-218-0645
Clarellen Dr Cypress Lake Dr	Marge Byrne	dir4@townandriverfl.com 239-482-8923
Cypress Lake Cr Joanna Cr Sand Spur Ln	Myriam Lentz	dir5@townandriverfl.com 239-225-8533
Deep Lagoon Ln Julie Ann Ct	Rick Ginsburg	dir6@townandriverfl.com 310.612.0368
Erin Marie Ct S. Town & River Dr	Martha Smith	dir7@townandriverfl.com 239-671-6347
McGregor Blvd Wittman Dr	Joe Tomaino	dir8@townandriverfl.com 239-851-4067
N. Town & River Dr	Kay Gloris	dir9@townandriverfl.com 239-590-0602
Lake Committee	Renee Notes	secy@townandriverfl.com 239-209-2072
Deeds of Restriction Committee	Gary Hudson	archreview@townandriverfl.com 239-481-7748
Architectural Review Committee	Gary Hudson	archreview@townandriverfl.com 239-481-7748

Please contact the Director responsible for your street regarding any issues related to Town & River.

## Owner Contact Information Request

**Town & River Civic Association Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 07073**  
**Fort Myers, FL 33919**

For improved communications, please update your contact information.  
 Please [PRINT] complete the following.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Town & River Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Time Resident: \_\_\_\_ Seasonal Resident: \_\_\_\_ My Property is Leased \_\_\_\_  
 If not full-time, other address, including zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Association members in good standing, who have submitted their contact information, and have agreed to have their contact information published in the online directory, will be issued a password to access the online directory. Otherwise, the information submitted is for board use only. If you agree to your contact information being included in a Town & River Directory, accessible by a password, please check either: \_\_\_\_ Yes or, \_\_\_\_ No  
 If "Yes", please check the information you agree to be included in the Directory:  
 \_\_\_\_ Names \_\_\_\_ Town & River Address \_\_\_\_ Other Address \_\_\_\_ Telephone Numbers  
 \_\_\_\_ Email Address

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Town & River Cruise Club from page 1

The weather was cooperative and over 25 members and guests arrived by boat and car. This restaurant is fairly new and provided a nice venue for our first gathering and



Many members arrived by boat.



All members and guests enjoyed this great boat excursion.



Many amenities were available to members of our club.



All members and guests enjoyed this great boat excursion.



**BROADWAYPALM PRESENTS**

**Dec. 29, 2019 - Feb. 8, 2020**

**GRUMPY OLD MEN**

Based in Minnesota, the musical adaptation of the popular 1993 Warner Bros. film tells the laugh-out-loud story of family, friendship, love and romance. *Grumpy Old Men* centers around neighbors, Max and John, two grumpy retirees whose verbal, and sometimes physical, altercations date back to their high school days. The rivalry reaches its peak when the beautiful, eccentric, and charming Ariel moves into the neighborhood. Chaos and laughter ensue as deep-rooted feuds are reopened, but with the help of Ariel's love and compassion, Max and John have a chance to be re-united in friendship.

**February 13 - April 4**

**Kinky Boots**

Based on true happenings, this heartwarming story tells of Charlie, a factory owner struggling to save his shoe business and Lola, a fabulous entertainer in need of some sturdy stilettos. The two have seemingly nothing in common, but with a little compassion and a lot of understanding, this unlikely duo learns to embrace their differences and find they have more in common than they think! Featuring original songs by pop icon Cyndi Lauper, this high-energy, full-hearted hit is inspiring audiences to let love shine and showing them that sometimes the best way to fit in is to stand out!

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# Introducing Lee County's Newest Professional Theatre —

## Players Circle Theatre At The Shell Factory

Players Circle Theatre has a three-fold mission: To create a home for a variety of theatre employing an ensemble of professionals; to become an outlet for community involvement in the arts; and to enrich, educate and entertain our community with classes and performances. We intend to fulfill that mission as a nonprofit organization that operates in a fiscally responsible manner and keeps its programming accessible to all.

### Our Inaugural Season:

#### The Dining Room – Jan. 7 Through Feb. 2

A brilliantly conceived and richly humorous theatrical tour-de-force from the author of *Sylvia* and *Cocktail Hour*. The play is set in the dining room of a typical well-to-do household, the place where the family assembled daily for breakfast, dinner and for any and all special occasions.

The mosaic of scenes – some funny, some touching, some rueful – which taken together create an in-depth portrait of a vanishing species; the upper middle class WASP. Throughout all, the actors change roles, personalities and ages with virtuoso skills.

#### Laughter On The 23rd Floor – Feb. 11 Through March 8

This Broadway hit comedy is homage to Neil Simon's early days in show business, when he worked as a junior jokesmith for Sid Caesar's *Your Show of Shows*. Simon's alter ego, Lucas, is stuck in a room with a bunch of the looniest comedy writers ever, based on Woody Allen, Carl Reiner, Mel Brooks and others.

The writers try to top each other with gags while competing for the attention of head mad man, Max Prince (Sid Caesar) who contends with NBC brass, the Red Scare and his own addictions!

#### Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-Time – March 17 Through April 12

Based on the best-selling novel by Mark Haddon and the winner of five Tony awards including Best Play, this is the story of 15-year-old Christopher Boone, who has an extraordinary mind but is out of sync with the world. When he falls under suspicion for killing his neighbor's dog, he sets out, a la Sherlock Holmes, on a life-changing journey to find the true culprit and uncovers family secrets that turn his world upside down.



#### Miracle On South Division Street – April 21 Through May 17

A funny and heartfelt family story about the Nowaks of Buffalo, N.Y., who have always known they were special – ever since the miraculous night in 1942 when the blessed Virgin Mary appeared before Grandpa in his barbershop. Since then, the neighborhood has looked upon a 20-foot commemorative shrine in their yard as a beacon of hope and faith.

Now daughter Ruth, an aspiring actress, unveils her plan to write and star in a one-woman show about the family miracle. But before her plans for theatrical immortality unfold, the entire family's faith is shaken to its very core when a deathbed confession causes the family legend to unravel.

To purchase tickets or for more information please visit our website at [www.playerscircle.org](http://www.playerscircle.org).

**Players Circle Theatre at the Shell Factory, 16554 N. Cleveland Ave., North Fort Myers, FL 33903, (239) 800-3292, [info@playerscircle.org](mailto:info@playerscircle.org), [www.playerscircle.org](http://www.playerscircle.org)**

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# What's Blooming At Edison And Ford Winter Estates?

By Debbie Hughes,  
Horticulture Director at  
Edison and Ford Winter  
Estates



Back in the 1930s, Mina Edison along with other notable gardeners sold plants at the annual courthouse plant market. Members from bird clubs, garden groups and community clubs participated and helped raise money for the purpose of beautifying the city. Those gardening groups also took part in "planting week" each year, encouraging homeowners and schools to improve the community with gardens. Here at the estates, we continue to do the work that the Edisons started. Beautifying yards and neighborhoods not only helps the environment, but can also increase property values.

Mina Edison championed the protection of our natural resources, knowing the impact we all have on the future. Today, the Lee County Extension office and the University of Florida (UF) encourage gardening for nature. UF and the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) developed nine Florida-Friendly Landscape Principles. If you would like to learn how to have a beautiful landscape that can save you time, energy and money while at the same time benefiting the environment, visit the website FloridaYards.org.

One of the most important gardening principles is "right plant in the right place." With so many plant choices available, it's not difficult to select a plant that is just right for your garden space. For example, when purchasing plants grown in nursery pots, the eventual size may not be realized for many years. Once the plant is in the ground, the roots can finally explore the soil, allowing the plant to reach its full potential – if planted in the right place.

What looks like a small, well-behaved plant can become more than you bargained for! It is imperative to ask a horticulturist or garden staff questions about plants before purchasing. Some good questions to ask include: How much sun does the plant need? What is the typical mature size (both height and width)? Does the plant attract wildlife? And, how much water does it need?

To help answer these and other questions, our gardens have become a testing ground for what to do and what not to do. The sun's rays in Florida can be tough on just about any plant with the exception of cacti, tomatoes or some trees. When selecting a site for most plants, morning sun is typically preferable to afternoon sun. The difference in how much water, fertilizer and pruning is needed can be substantially different when comparing a plant growing in full sun to one growing where it gets some relief in the afternoon.

Before purchasing plants, take note of their location in the nursery. Wherever the plants are situated at the garden center should give you a clue as to the plant's desired environment. As previously mentioned, it's important to know the mature size of any selected plants. I love the sweet almond bush (*Aloysia virgata*) that's growing at the estates in the Moonlight Garden and in the Butterfly Garden. This amazingly fragrant plant is usually offered in a small pot, but this shrub can reach 15 feet and probably should be called a tree rather than a bush. When you know what to expect, you can allow for the eventual size.

A new gardening program was started last year and several gardening classes are offered throughout the season. In January, Introduction to Florida Gardening (a two-part series) will be held on Jan. 7 and 14 at 1:30 p.m. The class will cover soil, plant nutrition, choosing plants for a specific yard or garden, understanding the difference between invasive and other exotic plants, best practices, plant and weed identification, state and local regulations and much more. Both classroom and field exposure is included, so attendees should wear sunscreen, a hat, comfortable shoes and bring drinking water. Advance registration is required at EdisonFord.org.

Since we try out a lot of new plants at the estates, the garden staff can tell you if a plant is going to be a good fit for your garden. We're happy to use our experience to guide and inspire you to find remarkable botanicals for your own landscape. Stop by the Garden Shoppe and bring your questions!



Angel trumpet



Chenille plant



Hibiscus

# Lee Republican Women

- Lee Republican Women Federated Lunch Meeting Jan. 14
- Pinchers – The Marina at Edison Ford, 2360 W. First St., Fort Myers, FL 33901. Located adjacent to the Edison and Ford Winter Estates in the Fort Myers Downtown River District
  - 11:15 a.m. social. Lunch and program to follow.
  - January's program will be (via Skype); Investigative Journalist David Bedein
  - \$22
  - For reservations call or text Ashley Winstel at (602) 708-8663 or email acwinstel@gmail.com or <https://leerepublicanwomen.com/productcategory/register/> before Jan. 9 at noon.

### Word Scramble Solution from page 2

Music	Math	Gym	History
Art	Science	Languages	Geography
Sports	Social studies		

### Sudoku Puzzle Solution from page 2

7	1	9	8	2	5	3	4	6
6	4	5	3	7	9	2	8	1
2	8	3	1	4	6	5	7	9
5	7	1	4	8	3	6	9	2
4	3	6	5	9	2	7	1	8
8	9	2	6	1	7	4	3	5
9	2	4	7	5	1	8	6	3
1	6	8	2	3	4	9	5	7
3	5	7	9	6	8	1	2	4

### Crossword Solution from page 2

T	H	R	E	E	P	A	P	A	E	T	A	T
R	O	A	R	S	L	U	L	L	U	R	G	E
A	N	G	S	T	A	R	E	A	C	O	R	N
Y	E	S	T	E	R	Y	E	A	R	A	L	E
			R	A	G	A	M	A	L	L	E	T
A	R	T	S		B	I	T	S	H			
M	O	A	T		B	R	E	W	O	P	T	E
I	M	P	E	R	I	L		A	N	Y	T	I
A	P	A	R	A		S	E	R	E	U	R	I
			E	N	S		A	H	A	S	E	R
H	E	R	O	I	C		T	O	R	N		
A	B	U	T		H	O	A	R	S	E	N	E
T	O	R	Y		O	R	B	S		V	I	R
C	L	A	P		O	G	L	E		E	N	A
H	A	L	E		L	Y	E	S		R	E	S

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# Jalapeno Popper Pork Loin

Stuffed with bacon, jalapenos, and cheese, Jalapeno Popper Pork Loin will leave you stuffed with flavor!

**Prep Time:** 30 minutes

**Cook Time:** 30 minutes

**Servings:** 10

## Ingredients

- 1 center-cut pork loin (about 3 pounds)
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 10 slices bacon, cooked crisp
- 8 ounces cream cheese, room temperature
- 1 tablespoon dry ranch seasoning
- 1 cup Cheddar cheese, freshly shredded



- 2 jalapeno peppers, finely diced
- 1 tablespoon olive oil

## Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 450 degrees F.
2. Butterfly the pork. With the pork on a cutting board, hold a knife blade parallel to the board and carefully make a lengthwise cut about 1/3 of the way from the bottom, stopping about 1 inch from the opposite end, being careful not to cut through.
3. Open the loin like a book.
4. Make a second cut on the thick side of the pork loin, horizontal with the first cut. Do not cut all the way through, stop about 1 inch from the opposite edge. Fold that edge over making one long cut of pork loin.
5. Cover the entire cut of meat with plastic wrap and pound to an even ½-inch thickness.
6. Season both sides with salt and pepper.

7. Top with cooked bacon strips.

8. In a small bowl, combine cream cheese and ranch seasoning. Add a layer of the cream cheese mixture on top of the bacon.

9. Top with shredded cheese and jalapenos.

10. Tightly roll the pork loin to completely enclose all of the fillings.

11. Using cooking twine, tightly secure the roll.

12. In an oven safe skillet over medium heat, add olive oil.

13. Once hot, add the pork loin to the pan and sear on all sides (about 5 minutes on each side), turning the loin a total of 4 times.

14. Transfer the skillet to the oven and cook for 25 to 30 minutes or until the pork loin reaches an internal temperature of 145 degrees F.

15. Slice and serve warm.

## New Art Classes Offered At Edison And Ford Winter Estates

Edison and Ford Winter Estates offer many educational opportunities throughout the year for both children and adults. In partnership with local artists, the site is offering several art classes for adults. Classes are taught by Marie Dyer and Megan Kissinger.

### Upcoming Classes

#### Landscape Painting – Jan. 4 At 9:30 a.m.

Marie Dyer teaches how to paint a landscape using acrylics. Class takes place in the River Pavilion. All skill levels welcome. Edison Ford members: \$90; nonmembers: \$100 (materials included). Class will also be offered on Feb. 22.

#### Botanical Drawing Basics – Jan. 26 At 9:30 a.m.

Artist, Megan Kissinger, will teach how to draw botanicals



Artist, Marie Dyer, teaches how to create a one-of-a-kind painted silk scarf.

from Edison and Ford Winter Estates. All skill levels welcome. Class will take place in the River Pavilion. Edison Ford members: \$40, nonmembers: \$60.

#### Drawing And Making Valentine Mandala Cards – Feb. 8 At 9:30 a.m.

In this class, Megan Kissinger teaches how a mandala is formatted as participants draw in the gardens. Edison Ford members: \$40; nonmembers: \$60.

#### Zen Drawing In The Succulent Garden – March 1 At 9:30 a.m.

No experience is required for this creative class. Students will be inspired by nature as they stroll through the gardens with



Megan Kissinger instructs students on drawing botanicals at Edison and Ford Winter Estates.

Megan Kissinger. Edison Ford members: \$40; nonmembers: \$60.

Advance registration is required online at [www.edisonfordwinterestates.org/education/adult-classes/](http://www.edisonfordwinterestates.org/education/adult-classes/) or in person at the ticket office. Class size is limited to 25. For additional information, call (239) 334-7419.

### About Edison And Ford Winter Estates

Edison and Ford Winter Estates is the internationally known winter homesite of Thomas Edison and Henry Ford. More than 250,000 visitors walk through the location each year from all around the globe. The organization has received many awards, including the National Stewardship Award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the National Garden Clubs' Historic Preservation Award. The property is an official project of "Save America's Treasures," a Florida Historic Landmark and a National Register Historic Site. The Edison Botanic Laboratory is a National Historic Chemical Landmark. The site is open every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and until 9 p.m. during the month of December for Holiday Nights.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates, 2350 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33901

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